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Part V Regional cooperation for development

Section 21
Regular programme of technical cooperation

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* The present document contains section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/52/6/Rev.1).

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Section 21
Regular programme of technical cooperation

Overview

21.1 Funding of the technical assistance activities under the regular budget began with General Assembly resolution 58 (I) of 14 December 1946, by which the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to include in the budget of the United Nations for the year 1947 the funds necessary for the accomplishment of such a programme in the field of social welfare. Over the years, the activities have been developed further in their sectoral and regional dimensions. The sectoral advisory services were established by the Assembly in its resolution 200 (III) of 4 December 1948 and the regional advisory services by the Assembly in its resolution 2803 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971.

21.2 The regular programme of technical cooperation complements technical assistance available to the developing countries from other sources of funds. It continues to play an important role in several areas of operational activities in many countries: nearly all developing countries cited technological development, social development, poverty alleviation and the improvement of human resources as continuing areas of priorities for the assistance provided under this programme. Support is also increasingly requested in a wide range of new areas, such as infrastructure development, reinforcement of national capacities for research and development, environmental regeneration and sustainable development, capacity-building to increase competitiveness in the global economic environment, support in national reconstruction, the continuum of relief and development, public administration reform, disaster management, drug control, human rights and support for institutional reforms.

21.3 A significant portion of regular programme activities is oriented towards the needs of the least developed countries in accordance with the criteria established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. In addition, the programme targets countries with economies in transition, where the key areas of support are technical cooperation and policy advice for systemic reforms, the promotion of economic and human development, the protection of the environment and growth of the energy sector.

21.4 Within the framework of existing guidelines, individual technical cooperation activities under the regular programme are determined by the nature of requests received from Governments, the recommendations of intergovernmental legislative and expert bodies and approved work programmes. In keeping with the guidelines, funding is directed towards activities with a demonstrated multiplier effect likely to have a significant impact on the development process that are in accord with development needs and priorities of individual countries and are consistent with global development policies enunciated by United Nations legislative bodies.

21.5 Because the scope and composition of the activities under the regular programme are based on the individual requests of Governments, the proposals at this stage indicate only major areas of activity and relevant secretariat units to be responsible for their implementation.

21.6 The programme, which comprises development projects in the fields of human rights, environment and social development management, human settlements, poverty alleviation, energy, economic development, international trade and development finance, population, public administration, finance and development, crime prevention and criminal justice, international drug control, statistics, transport and disaster mitigation and emergency humanitarian assistance, is divided into two components:

(a) Sectoral advisory services, executed, as appropriate, by the Department for Development Support and Management Services, the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, the secretariat of UNCTAD, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Centre for Human Rights, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

(b) Regional and subregional advisory services executed by the secretariats of ECE, ECA, ECLAC, ESCWA and ESCAP.

21.7 There are three main types of technical cooperation activities proposed for financing under this section, namely, short-term advisory services, field projects and training.

Short-term advisory services

21.8 In response to ad hoc requests from Governments for assistance, technical cooperation in the form of short-term advisory services can be made available under the regular programme in cases when the specific problem can be dealt with on a short-term basis and does not fall within the scope of an already funded project. The main purpose of these services is to provide advice as a basis for immediate government action or, in the case of broader needs, to lay the groundwork for meeting them through the identification and formulation of projects for submission to potential financing sources.

Field projects

21.9 Provision of technical cooperation through field projects may originate in response either to specific government requests or to proposals formulated by the various offices concerned in the context of their approved substantive work programmes. Such projects will therefore be mainly interregional, designed to test and operationalize new approaches to development needs or to fill gaps where funds from other sources are insufficient to cover areas given high priority by legislative bodies. Different kinds of inputs will be combined in ways to meet best the particular needs involved and to maximize the multiplier function of the regular programme.

Training

21.10 Training activities are undertaken in recognition of the key role of human resources in the development process and the consequent need for adequately trained and qualified personnel at the national level. While training needs are often addressed through short-term advisory services and field projects, a portion of regular programme resources would be used for seminars and workshops, in areas with a potential multiplier effect, organized for national staff with policy-making, planning and management responsibilities.

21.11 The procedures applicable to the regular programme were established by the General Assembly in its resolution 2514 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969, in which it endorsed the proposals contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII). Under those procedures, annual reports on programme implementation are submitted, as appropriate, to the Executive Board of UNDP, while budget performance is reported to the General Assembly.

21.12 It should be recalled that by its resolution 50/214, part II, paragraph 35, the General Assembly decided that the 1996-1997 expenditure under this section would be at the same level as in 1994-1995. That approach was confirmed in resolution 51/222 A of 18 December 1996. Accordingly, the initial 1996-1997 appropriation of $44,814,700 was reduced in the revised 1996-1997 appropriation by $7,438,800 to the level of 1994-1995 expenditure of $37,375,900.

21.13 The experience gained in the course of the implementation of the programme budget during the biennium 1996-1997 has indicated that the reduced level of the appropriation under this section precluded the Secretariat from being able to provide full and timely responses to the large number of requests made by Governments for advisory services, training and field projects. As a response to partially ameliorate this unsatisfactory position, a growth in resources of $6,644,000 is proposed. Should the proposal meet with the approval of the General Assembly it is anticipated that future responses to requests for assistance will be substantially improved in quality, timeliness and quantity.

21.14 The resource requirements proposed under this section are summarized in table 21.1 below.

Table 21.1 **Summary of requirements by component**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Component		1994-1995 expenditures	1996-1997 appropriations	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	1998-1999 estimates
				Amount	Percentage			
A.	Sectoral advisory services	15 478.2	15 478.2	3 608.6	23.3	19 086.8	522.0	19 608.8
B.	Regional and subregional advisory services	21 897.7	21 897.7	3 035.4	13.8	24 933.1	1 379.9	26 313.0
	Total	**37 375.9**	**37 375.9**	**6 644.0**	**17.7**	**44 019.9**	**1 901.9**	**45 921.8**

21.15 The increase in resource requirements ($6,644,000) would provide resources at a level comparable with those initially requested for the biennium 1996-1997. Virtually all of the additional resources will be focused on new and flexible means for responding to government requests for assistance. The provision for regional and interregional advisory services at 2,184 work-months for 1998-1999 will be held at practically the same level as was provided for the biennium 1996-1997 (2,136). As a result, there would be more resources to open new activities on an experimental basis and to fill gaps where funds from other sources are not available to cover special areas of need. This approach will be fully consistent with the guidelines for the use of regular programme resources as endorsed by UNDP Governing Council in its decision 80/42 of 27 June 1980.

A. Sectoral advisory services

Table 21.2 **Summary of requirements by programme**[a]
(Thousands of United States dollars)

			1998-1999 by implementing office								
	1994-1995 expenditures	*1996-1997 appropriations*	*Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis*	*Department for Development Support and Management Services*	*UNCTAD*	*United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)*	*Crime prevention*	*UNDCP*	*Centre for Human Rights*	*Department of Humanitarian Affairs*	*1998-1999 estimates*
1. Statistics	1 191.7	1 191.6	2 000.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 000.6
2. Population	247.9	248.0	379.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	379.0
3. Public administration, finance and development	2 697.2	2 536.8	—	3 303.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 303.1
4. Environment and social development management	5 085.2	5 245.7	—	4 768.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 768.8
5. Globalization and development	—	—	—	—	506.4	—	—	—	—	—	506.4
6. Investment, enterprise development and technology	—	—	—	—	460.0	—	—	—	—	—	460.0
7. International trade in goods and services and commodities	1 330.1	1 330.2	—	—	1 330.2	—	—	—	—	—	1 330.2
8. Shelter and social services	873.5	873.4	—	—	—	462.6	—	—	—	—	462.6
9. Urban management	—	—	—	—	—	300.0	—	—	—	—	300.0
10. Environment and infrastructure	—	—	—	—	—	200.0	—	—	—	—	200.0
11. Crime prevention and criminal justice	938.2	938.3	—	—	—	—	1 170.1	—	—	—	1 170.1
12. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse, elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	459.9	—	—	459.9

			1998-1999 by implementing office								
	1994-1995 expenditures	1996-1997 appropriations	Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis	Department for Development Support and Management Services	UNCTAD	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	Crime prevention	UNDCP	Centre for Human Rights	Department of Humanitarian Affairs	1998-1999 estimates
13. Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities	2 236.5	2 236.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 359.9	—	3 359.9
14. Natural disaster reduction	877.9	877.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	908.2	908.2
Total	**15 478.2**	**15 478.2**	**2 379.6**	**8 071.9**	**2 296.6**	**962.6**	**1 170.1**	**459.9**	**3 359.9**	**908.2**	**19 608.8**

* The breakdown is subject to change in response to assistance requests received and is shown for indicative purpose only.

21.16 The sectoral advisory services cover programmes relating to human rights, environment and social development management, human settlements, trade and development, population, public administration, finance and development, crime prevention and criminal justice, international drug control, statistics and emergency humanitarian assistance. The estimated requirements amount to $19,608,800, as shown in table 21.2, and comprise 43.4 per cent of the total resources under section 21.

21.17 It is anticipated that 744 work-months of interregional advisory services will be required in the biennium 1998-1999 in comparison with 720 work-months in the biennium 1996-1997. The growth of 24 work-months relates to the allocation of resources for the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

1. Economic and social information and policy analysis:[1] $2,379,600

21.18 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis in support of the objectives of subprogramme 7.1, Statistics, and 7.2, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social information and policy analysis of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

21.19 In 1998-1999, these activities will continue to focus on establishing and/or strengthening the institutional capabilities of the national statistical systems of developing countries and increasing the capacities of developing countries to formulate national population and related policies for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

[1] Title corresponds to a programme of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

Activities

21.20 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Statistics: $2,000,600*

(i) Advisory services. Missions to ensure the provision of expert assistance, upon Government request, in statistics and statistical data-processing aimed at enhancing national capabilities in the areas of data-processing and informatics; the system of national accounts, which has been accorded highest priority by the Statistical Commission; and other areas of statistics as required;

(ii) Group training. Three workshops/seminars on the informal sector, environment and other issues identified by the Statistical Commission. These workshops will assist developing countries in upgrading their capabilities in priority areas of statistics;

(iii) Fellowships. Twenty-four fellowships to be provided to nationals from developing countries to upgrade their professional capabilities in the area of statistics and encourage technical cooperation among developing countries;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Population: $379,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions to provide technical support on reproductive health programmes, including family planning and in the fields of mortality, internal and international migration; population estimates and projections, implementation of population policies and programmes on development issues and information technologies;

(ii) Field projects. Field projects to provide assistance in the areas of the formulation and implementation of population and development strategies, training in population and development, population data analysis and research, and evaluation of population and reproductive health programmes.

2. Development support and management services:[1] $8,071,900

21.21 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department for Development Support and Management Services and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 8.1, Public administration, finance and development, and 8.2 Environment and social development management, of programme 8, Development support and management services, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.22 In 1998-1999, assistance will be provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition (a) to build their human and institutional capabilities and infrastructures and formulate and implement integrated policies that will contribute to sustainable growth and development through effective public administration and finance and (b) to conceptualize, formulate and implement action-oriented, people-centred programmes at the national level, emphasizing the interface between natural resources, environmental management and economic and social development.

Activities

21.23 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Public administration, finance and development: $3,303,100*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to provide assistance in the fields of governance and public administration policy development, administrative restructuring, civil service reform, electoral assistance, government capacity for improved performance in the public sector, government capacity for developing infrastructure and protecting the environment, post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction of government machinery, government capacity for social development, financial management, government accounting and reporting and public-private interaction;

(ii) Group training. Ten workshops on public sector management reforms, gender issues in civil service systems, governance and civic participation, public administration and information

systems, government accounting and reporting, promoting ethics in government and private sector development;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Environment and social development management: $4,768,800*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on macroeconomic development strategies and policy formulation, new and renewable sources of energy, social development policies and strategies, cartography and land information systems, integrated water resources development and management and mineral resources planning and management;

(ii) Group training. Ten workshops on macroeconomic policies in countries with economies in transition, economic sustainability in post-conflict situations, social integration and social development, regional energy interconnections, energy and environment, cartography and land information systems, water resources management and mineral resources management, with emphasis on the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa.

3. Trade and Development:[1] $2,296,600

21.24 The activities in this sector are implemented by UNCTAD and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 9.1, Globalization and development, 9.2, Investment, enterprise development, and technology, and 9.3, International trade in goods and services and commodities, of programme 9, Trade and development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.25 In 1998-1999, the UNCTAD regular programme on technical cooperation will focus on strengthening capacities of developing countries and their groupings to foster regional economic integration and the integration of their economies in the world economy. These activities will take into account the needs arising in the post-Uruguay Round context. The contribution of UNCTAD towards strengthening capacities of developing countries in the formulation of effective strategies and policy approaches that foster South-South economic cooperation and the integration of their economies into the global economy will continue to be carried out.

Activities

21.26 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Globalization and development: $506,400*

(i) Group training. Two workshops for senior officials involved in economic cooperation groupings of developing countries;

(ii) Field projects. Four projects on formulation of technical assistance projects that can enhance economic cooperation among developing countries through the exchange of experiences and know-how and the sharing of methods of production, identification of technical assistance needs by integration groupings in the field and searches for practical and operational solutions, development of a cadre of trained negotiators in international commercial diplomacy and mobilization of funds for the financing of operational activities;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Investment, enterprise development and technology: $460,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, upon request, on problems of integration, trade liberalization and customs cooperation; institutional capacity-building and fostering closer contacts and cooperation among enterprises; possibilities of trade cooperation; deepening monetary, financial and investment cooperation; broadening and strengthening institutional and technical capacities of trade financing, and trade promotion organizations; facilitating partnership arrangements and cooperation between enterprises and research and development organizations of developing countries; emerging issues for the future international trade agenda; financial services; and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops for senior officials involved in trade and investment policy formulation or trainers on the new framework for multilateral trade;

(iii) Field projects. Two continuing projects on entrepreneurship development and the initiation of new entrepreneurship development projects in response to requests from developing countries;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. International trade in goods and services and commodities: $1,330,200*

(i) Advisory services. Missions on trade policy reforms and the implementation of the Uruguay Round results;

(ii) Group training. One workshop for officials of developing countries to emphasize the need for environmentally sound management of natural resources;

(iii) Field projects. Ten projects on domestic policy adjustments to integrate trade rules and disciplines resulting from the Uruguay Round; identification of trading opportunities arising from the Uruguay Round results, as well as examination of the implications of emerging trading arrangements; development of the service sector and effective management of the trade in services; emerging issues such as trade and environment, management of natural resources, competition policy, trade and labour standards, and effective participation in discussions on the post-Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations.

4. Human settlements:[1] $962,600

21.27 The activities in this sector are implemented by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 11.1, Shelter and social services, 11.2, Urban management, and 11.3, Environment and infrastructure, of programme 11, Human settlements, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

Activities

21.28 Activities under this sector will be directed, for the most part, at building the capacities of developing countries and are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Shelter and social services: $462,600*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on housing finance and delivery, improving the capacity of the construction industry and providing, managing and maintaining basic social services;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on the construction sector, including production of materials and gender issues related to housing;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Urban management: $300,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on sharing good practice and innovative approaches to sustainable human settlement management and exchange of expertise, experience, know-how and technology;

(ii) Group training. Three workshops on urban development, land management and socio-economic integration in urban areas;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Environment and infrastructure: $200,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on urban environmental management, transport, infrastructure, and disaster mitigation and rehabilitation;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on urban environmental management.

5. Crime prevention and criminal justice:[1] $1,170,100

21.29 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division and are in support of the objectives of programme 12, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.30 Technical assistance will consolidate the initiatives in the previous bienniums which established a solid foundation for launching the expanded programme, particularly those activities related to the establishment of effective channels of communication with Governments, development of procedures and practices for project formulation, implementation and evaluation, and strengthening of the global information network on crime prevention and criminal justice. The programme carries out technical cooperation activities mainly through facilitating exchange of information (e.g. clearing-house functions); organizing training on specific issues, on the request of a Member State or an organization; contributing to training activities organized by other entities, such as intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations; preparing training materials; and preparing comprehensive technical assistance projects.

Activities

21.31 Activities related to this subprogramme are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Crime prevention and criminal justice: $1,170,100*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to assess needs and provide advice as a basis for immediate government action, or, in the case of broader needs, to lay the groundwork for meeting them through the identification and formulation of projects, including for submission to potential financial donors;

(ii) Group training. Five workshops for correctional officers, police prosecutors, defense bar or judicial personnel;

(iii) Fellowships. Seven fellowships for participants from least developed countries;

(iv) Field projects. Two projects on measures against corruption and penal and procedural legislation.

6. International drug control:[1] $459,900

21.32 The activities in this sector are implemented by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and are in support of the objectives of subprogramme 13.3, Prevention and reduction of drug abuse, elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking, of programme 13, International drug control, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001. The assistance provided under this programme complements assistance available to developing countries from the fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

21.33 The focus of the activities financed under this sector is to increase the capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to develop adequate laws and legal infrastructure to deal effectively with the drug problems facing them. To this end, assistance will be provided to these countries so that they may become party to and implement effectively the international drug control conventions. In the field of drug control legislation, activities will focus on the drafting and adoption of appropriate national legislation, transfer of know-how and problem-solving at the national and subregional levels to enhance effective implementation.

Activities

21.34 Activities related to this subprogramme are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse, elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking: $459,900*

Advisory services. Missions, on the request of Governments, to provide advice on the nature and extent of obligations under the international drug control conventions and on implementation measures adopted by other countries with similar legal systems and concepts; to assess needs and develop project proposals; to conduct a comprehensive review, evaluation and report on existing drug-related laws, arrangements, and implementation procedures and infrastructure of the country or subregion concerned; to provide advice on legislative and administrative options to give correct and adequate effect to all the conventions, including appropriate mechanisms to help ensure effective international cooperation under the conventions; to formulate policies in line with the conventions, as well as for coordinating drug control operational activities; to provide expertise to help prepare drafting instructions or the legislation itself and model implementing legislation and expert advice on its adjustment to suit local requirements.

7. Human rights:[1] $3,359,900

21.35 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Centre for Human Rights and are in support of the objectives of subprogramme 19.3, Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities, of programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.36 The objectives are to assist countries, at their request, in developing comprehensive national plans of action to promote and protect human rights and to provide advice and to support specific projects to promote respect for human rights; to develop a comprehensive and coordinated United Nations programme to help States in building and strengthening national structures for human rights promotion and protection; and to raise awareness and promote specialized knowledge about human rights through the organization of training courses, seminars and workshops, and the production of a wide range of educational, training and information material.

Activities

21.37 Activities related to this subprogramme are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities: $3,359,900*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to provide assistance in building and strengthening national structures for human rights promotion and protection and to assess needs and provide advice as a basis for immediate government action;

(ii) Group training. Ten workshops: two annual regional workshops in Asia and the Pacific, for government representatives to discuss human rights issues that require a regional approach and initiatives, such as the establishment of regional arrangements for the protection and promotion of human rights; two regional training courses in Africa and Asia on economic, social and cultural rights; two specialized regional training courses in Latin America and Africa for trainers; and two national training courses for lawyers and judges;

(iii) Fellowships. Forty fellowships to be awarded to candidates from five regions who need to study and train in specific areas of human rights, with emphasis on training in the preparation of reports to the United Nations human rights monitoring bodies.

8. Humanitarian assistance:[1] $908,200

21.38 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs and are in support of the objectives of subprogramme 20.3, Natural disaster reduction, of programme 20, Humanitarian assistance, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.39 During the biennium, the programmed activities will focus on assistance in the integration of the disaster reduction concept into national development plans of the most disaster-prone countries; the application of risk assessment methods as a basis for effective disaster reduction strategies; community involvement in all phases of the disaster management process; and the provision of access to effective early warning systems at all levels as an integral part of disaster preparedness and prevention.

Activities

21.40 Activities related to this subprogramme are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Natural disaster reduction: $908,200*

(i) Advisory services. Missions in response to ad hoc requests from Governments for assistance, including in the design phase of disaster reduction activities and national disaster management plans; provision of expert services; organization of training events; and evaluation;

(ii) Group training. Thirty-four workshops: eight subregional training events introducing more than 100 officials from developing disaster-prone countries to disaster reduction methods; ten country workshops for participants from countries in special development circumstances; ten standard country workshops; four regional workshops comprising three to four countries each; and two training-of-trainers workshops, rotating by region;

(iii) Fellowships. Twenty fellowships to allow selected individuals from different regions to receive training at specialized institutions;

(iv) Field projects. Two subregional and ten country disaster reduction projects.

B. Regional and subregional advisory services

Table 21.3 **Summary of requirements by programme**[a]
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	1994-1995 expenditure	*1996-1997 estimates*	*1998-1999 by implementing office*					*1998-1999 estimates*
			ECA	*ESCAP*	*ECE*	*ECLAC*	*ESCWA*	
Facilitating economic and policy analysis	3 552.9	3 083.4	3 479.6	—	—	—	—	3 479.6
Enhancing food security and sustainable development	966.6	1 088.4	1 248.5	—	—	—	—	1 248.5
Strengthening development management	1 126.4	1 129.3	1 252.7	—	—	—	—	1 252.7
Harnessing information for development	574.3	530.0	1 530.7	—	—	—	—	1 530.7
Promoting regional cooperation and integration	1 175.0	1 564.1	381.2	—	—	—	—	381.2
Regional economic cooperation: trade and investment	607.6	650.8	—	704.7	—	—	—	704.7
Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis	—	394.0	—	352.4	—	—	—	352.4
Environment and sustainable development	1 023.1	990.2	—	704.0	—	—	—	704.0
Poverty alleviation: social development	667.2	347.1	—	352.5	—	—	—	352.5
Statistics	305.4	327.5	—	349.1	—	—	—	349.1
Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries	2 100.6	1 994.1	—	3 437.2	—	—	—	3 437.2
Environment	358.0	398.4	—	—	427.4	—	—	427.4
Transport	544.3	673.6	—	—	836.6	—	—	836.6
Statistics	315.7	331.4	—	—	420.3	—	—	420.3
Trade facilitation	1 025.4	807.0	—	—	817.9	—	—	817.9
Energy	400.6	393.9	—	—	427.2	—	—	427.2
Development of international trade	327.4	367.2	—	—	426.1	—	—	426.1
Linkages with the global economy, competitiveness and production specialization	464.5	417.8	—	—	—	415.0	—	415.0
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	245.8	284.6	—	—	—	283.7	—	283.7
Macroeconomic equilibria, investment and financing	2 969.0	2 869.4	—	—	—	4 129.7	—	4 129.7
Environmental and land resource sustainability	437.4	544.9	—	—	—	561.6	—	561.6
Management of natural resources and environment	829.9	814.6	—	—	—	—	1 146.4	1 146.4
Improvement of the quality of life	174.1	238.1	—	—	—	—	332.9	332.9
Economic development and global changes	322.3	729.9	—	—	—	—	491.6	491.6
Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development	777.1	245.2	—	—	—	—	1 073.4	1 073.4
Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information	607.1	682.8	—	—	—	—	730.6	730.6
Total	**21 897.7**	**21 897.7**	**7 892.7**	**5 899.9**	**3 355.5**	**5 390.0**	**3 774.9**	**26 313.0**

[a] The breakdown is subject to change in response to assistance requests received and is shown for indicative purpose only.

21.41 The estimates for this component ($26,313,000) comprise 56.6 per cent of the total resources proposed under this section. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2803 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, provision is made for a system of regional and subregional advisory services for the purpose of assisting developing countries that are members of the regional commissions in solving problems that they may encounter in their national development efforts. The advisory services are made available in response to requests from Governments and involve advisory missions on an individual or a joint multidisciplinary basis. The resources for regional and subregional advisory services are provided in the form of work-months estimated to meet the requirements in particular fields during the biennium. The regional advisers are engaged on a temporary basis and receive the required support from substantive divisions and administrative services of the regional commissions.

21.42 It is anticipated that 1,440 work-months of regional advisory services will be required in the biennium 1998-1999 in comparison with 1,416 work-months in the biennium 1996-1997. The growth of 24 work-months relates to the additional requirements of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

21.43 Regional commissions carry out important information-gathering and socio-economic analysis functions in their respective regions. They have been playing a major role in developing policy on economic integration and in clarifying economic, social, political and environmental issues relating to sustainable development. They thus provide a forum and a network for cooperation among their member States and between them and other States at the technical level. In addition, they are increasingly becoming providers of technical cooperation activities, especially in intersectoral areas and in areas where no other United Nations entity has a comparative advantage.

1. Economic and social development in Africa:[1] $7,892,700

21.44 The activities in this region are implemented by ECA and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 14.1, Facilitating economic and social policy analysis, 14.2, Enhancing food security and sustainable development, 14.3, Strengthening development management, 14.4, Harnessing information for development, and 14.5, Promoting regional cooperation and integration, of programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.45 During the biennium, technical cooperation activities will put greater emphasis on advisory services and training. The main purpose of the advisory services is to provide advice as a basis for immediate government action or, in the case of broader needs, to lay groundwork for meeting them through the identification and formulation of projects for submission to potential financing sources. The training activities, which form an important aspect of the functions performed by the regional advisers, are undertaken in recognition of the key role of human resources in the development process, and as a follow-up to regional advisory services to Governments to ensure maximum impact on and benefit for the member States.

Activities

21.46 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Facilitating economic and policy analysis:* $3,479,600

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on the formulation of national and subregional macroeconomic and sectoral policies and strategies and the preparation, implementation and monitoring of programmes for adjustment and stabilization, including implementation of policies, measures and incentives for enhancing trade expansion and strengthening export capacity; domestic resource mobilization and taxation policies; resource flows and external debt management; poverty assessment, analysis and monitoring; economic empowerment of women in Africa; promoting women's human and legal rights; and public policy analysis and programme development;

(ii) Group training. Ten workshops on policies and instruments for macroeconomic management; domestic resource mobilization and taxation policies; resource flows and external debt

management; successes of trade and export policy reforms in Asia, Latin America and Eastern European countries in transition: lessons for African countries; development of guidelines and methodologies for use by member States to improve poverty assessment, analysis and monitoring; development and application of gender indicators for monitoring the economic empowerment of women in Africa; women's human and legal rights; and public policy analysis and programme development;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Enhancing food security and sustainable development:* $1,248,500

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on design, implementation and evaluation of food security policies and programmes; measures for the promotion and development of subregional cooperation in policies and planning aimed at harmonizing development efforts in the nexus issues of food security, population and environment; monitoring of implementation at the national level of the series of globally and regionally agreed programmes and conventions that have been developed for food security and environmental sustainability; and water resources development and management, including cooperative arrangements on transboundary river/lake basins;

(ii) Group training. Eight workshops on monitoring of the series of globally agreed programmes and conventions on food security and environmental sustainability; developing methodologies and guidelines on sustainable agricultural production systems and environmental rehabilitation programmes in Africa; and topical issues on water resources development and management;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Strengthening development management:* $1,252,700

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on enhancing accountability in the public sector; strengthening the civil service systems; decentralization and local governance; enhancing effectiveness and efficiency and policy analysis capacity in African public services; developing or strengthening the legal and regulatory framework essential to private sector operations; design of policies and measures for promoting dialogue and partnerships between private and public sectors; strengthening networking arrangements among national, subregional and regional private sector organizations and associations; and technical support to efforts of national investment promotion agencies in attracting private investment in their countries;

(ii) Group training. Eight workshops on enhancing policy analysis capacity in African public services; developing standards and indicators for better civil service performance; strengthening the leadership and the managerial and technical capacities of local government; formulation of policies and measures to foster small enterprises and micro-enterprises; and investment promotion centres and private sector development in Africa;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Harnessing information for development:* $1,530,700

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on developing national policies and plans for adopting information and communication technologies; developing master plans for building national information and telecommunications infrastructures; determining requirements and setting up information and communications services in key sectors of national priority; developing guidelines and standards on policies and strategies to increase access to information and communications facilities; monitoring the implementation of the African Information Society Initiative; strategies for building appropriate computer and electronic networking infrastructures, developing connectivity and assisting in the creation of national and regional network information centres, Internet Society chapters and community connectivity centres; organization and management of statistical systems and household surveys; and issues related to communication for development;

(ii) Group training. Six workshops on information and communications technology policy; connectivity and electronic communications; organization and management of statistical systems and household surveys and capacity-building training programmes related to communication for development;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Promoting regional cooperation and integration:* $381,200

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments on problems of integration; evaluation of trade liberalization and customs unions schemes; fostering closer contacts and cooperation among enterprises; trade cooperation and expansion; monetary, financial and investment cooperation; energy planning and management; partnership arrangements and cooperation between enterprises and research and development organizations at subregional and regional levels; impact of economic integration processes on production; development of subregional free trade agreements; establishment and assessment of compensatory mechanisms; issues related to the Uruguay Round Agreement and its impact on African countries and regional integration schemes; and regional transport linkages and facilitation.

2. Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific:[1] $5,899,900

21.47 The activities in this region are implemented by ESCAP and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 15.1, Regional economic cooperation: trade and investment, 15.2, Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis, 15.4, Environment and sustainable development, 15.5, Poverty alleviation: social development, 15.9, Statistics, and 15.10, Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, of programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.48 Formulation of the regional advisory and training programme for 1998-1999 is based on the needs and priorities of the recipient countries as reflected in the deliberations of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and on the specific emerging needs/changing conditions in those countries of the ESCAP region requesting advisory services. The programme is also formulated to take into account the special needs of the expanded membership of the Commission, which increased from 49 in 1992 to 60 in 1996.

Activities

21.49 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Regional economic cooperation: Trade and investment*: $704,700

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on trade policy, negotiations and trade promotion and implications of the Uruguay Round; and promotion of regional cooperation for enhancing trade efficiency and electronic commerce;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on strengthening of national capabilities in technology transfer and investment production and increasing possibilities of expansion and diversification of trade between and among subregions;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Regional economic cooperation: research and policy analysis*: $352,400

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on issues of economic reform; improving macroeconomic stability; restructuring government budgets and designing taxation and public expenditure policies; facilitating the transition to a market-based economy; and efficient management of public enterprises and creation of viable public institutions;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on various aspects of market-oriented economies;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Environment and sustainable development:* $704,000

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on national policies and environment-related legislation and laws; and formulation and implementation of master water plans, assessment of water resources, water demand management and protection of water resources and aquatic ecosystems;

(ii) Group training. Four workshops on various aspects of planning, management, development and utilization of surface and ground water resources and capacity-building and development of national plans and programmes for environmentally sound and sustainable development;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Poverty alleviation: social development*: $352,500

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, for assistance in implementing national action for achieving the goals and targets in the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region and to strengthen support to the Pacific island countries in the field of social development;

(ii) Group training. Four workshops on social aspects of structural adjustment and economic reform; promotion of community-based development policies and poverty alleviation programmes; women in development and their integration into all aspects of development planning; and human settlements and urbanization;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Statistics*: $349,100

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, for assistance in the field of national accounts;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on the new system of national accounts; and social statistics, gender statistics and related socio-economic indicators;

(f) *Subprogramme 6. Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries*: $3,437,200

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, for assistance in economic and financial management; structural adjustment and economic reforms; social development problems that flow from economic adjustment and reform programmes; market development and trade promotion to broaden the export potential of the Pacific island economies; and port development and transport systems;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on land and sea transport development, including multi-modal transportation issues.

3. Economic development in Europe:[1] $3,355,500

21.50 The activities in this region are implemented by ECE and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 16.1, Environment, 16.2, Transport, 16.3, Statistics, 16.4, Trade facilitation; 16.6, Energy, and 16.7, Development of international trade, of programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.51 In 1998-1999, the principal function of the ECE advisory services will be to promote the capacity of countries undergoing transition processes to integrate with the European and global economy. The advisory services have reinforced the ECE orientation regarding those issues of particular relevance to countries with economies in transition and newly independent States. Requests for ECE advisory assistance from its member States, which show an ever-growing trend, cover a broad range of activities in areas of strategic policy formulation such as market economy institution building, trade promotion, industry and enterprise development, privatization and foreign direct investment, statistics, transport, environment and energy. Advisory assistance also includes the implementation of conventions, norms and standards negotiated within ECE, programme formulation, financial engineering, training of policy makers, as well as institutional networking at national and subregional levels.

Activities

21.52 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Environment*: $427,400

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, for assistance on legal, institutional, financial and infrastructural issues; safe and environmentally sound technologies; pilot and demonstration projects and simulation exercises; and communication and cooperation between all stakeholders, including from the private sector, in particular in a transboundary context;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Transport*: $836,600

Advisory services. Missions in response to ad hoc requests from Governments for assistance in bringing national transport systems and infrastructures in line with recommendations, resolutions and international agreements and conventions elaborated within the framework of the ECE Inland Transport Committee. In the process, the creation of a coherent, efficient rail and combined transport system among the countries with economies in transition and between them and western and southern Europe, as well as the Middle East, will be promoted;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Statistics*: $420,300

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, for assistance in the implementation of the revised System of National Accounts and other areas;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Trade facilitation*: $817,900

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to provide the standards necessary to ensure harmonization in electronic trade information interchange in the context of a network of national, regional and international institutions engaged in the development and promotion of these standard activities.

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Energy*: $427,200

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to strengthen specific technical assistance programmes for countries with economies in transition to enable them to formulate national energy policies, to assist in the formulation of legislation in the energy field and to promote the development of privatization in the energy sector;

(f) *Subprogramme 6. Development of International Trade*: $426,100

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to provide assistance to the countries with economies in transition in the areas of promoting entrepreneurship, cross-border trade, transit trade operations, marketing and financing techniques, and to formulate recommendations and projects.

4. Economic and Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean:[1] $5,390,000

21.53 The activities in this region are implemented by ECLAC and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 17.1, Linkages with the global economy, competitiveness and production specialization, 17.3, Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development, 17.4, Macroeconomic equilibria, investment and financing, and 17.7, Environmental and land resource sustainability, of programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.54 In order for the economic development of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to be sustainable, they must improve their linkages with the global economy (their quantitative and qualitative shares in trade, foreign direct investment and technology flows) and also increase their capacity both to take advantage of growth cycles in international trade and to withstand adverse phases through

diversification of products and markets, a search for investments and alliances abroad and better linkages between exports and the other production activities; to identify the most suitable best practices and technologies available internationally, adapting them to local conditions; to carry out important reforms and implement macroeconomic and institutional policies to introduce new ways of operating; and to introduce environmental concerns into natural resources development.

Activities

21.55 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Linkages with the global economy, competitiveness and production specialization*: $415,000

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to countries in the region to define policy recommendations to expand and diversify their trade in goods and services and favour the competitiveness and growth of their economies; to make comparative analyses of relevant examples of export development both inside and outside the region in order to examine the variables that affect the capacity of exports to mobilize the other sectors of the economy; and to contribute to the analysis of trade policies and of developments in the regulatory framework of international trade in order to make the fullest possible use of the available room for action and strengthen the region's bargaining power;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development*: $283,700

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to countries of the region to provide assistance to increase productivity, implement microeconomic and macroeconomic policies designed to support the modernization of their enterprises, including microenterprises and to heighten the efficiency of the entrepreneurial environment in such areas as physical infrastructure, training systems and the capital market;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Macroeconomic equilibria, investment and financing*: $4,129,700

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to countries of the region to assist in developing policies which strengthen domestic capacity to generate financial resources intended for investment and to allow the institutions and instruments that channel those resources into the accumulation of capital to function smoothly; to draw up a systematic account of the application of economic policies and reforms and to evaluate their impact on the performance of the region's economies; to participate actively with Governments in the formulation of those policies and reforms; and to improve the collection, processing and dissemination of the economic statistics needed to take decisions in the public and private sectors;

(ii) Group training. Fifteen workshops on exchange of experience in economic development and integration;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Environmental and land resource sustainability*: $561,600

Advisory service. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to countries of the region to provide assistance in the development of the countries' capacity to manage their water and other natural resources; modifications in the regulatory framework governing their use; control of wastes and pollution in environmentally vulnerable sectors; and the application of environmentally rational production technologies.

5. Economic and Social Development in Western Asia:[1] $3,774,900

21.56 The activities in this region are implemented by ESCWA and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 18.1, Management of natural resources and environment, 18.2, Improvement of the

quality of life, 18.3, Economic development and global changes, 18.4, Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development, and 18.5, Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information, of programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

21.57 The purpose of this programme is to assist member countries in their national efforts to overcome the various obstacles to economic and social development. In 1998-1999, ESCWA will continue to enhance regional cooperation and policy coordination and increase awareness of the economic, social, cultural, technological and environmental dimensions of development, promoting the development of technical assistance activities and projects commensurate with the needs and priorities of ESCWA member States. Support will be provided to member States in the preparation and implementation of national policies, plans and programmes, identification and formulation of projects.

Activities

21.58 Activities related to these subprogrammes are foreseen as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Management of natural resources and environment*: $1,146,400

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on strengthening the capacity to improve energy policies; new and renewable energy technologies; monitoring, analysing and reporting on emerging environmental issues; reversing environmental damage and degradation of natural resources; and development and management of shared water resources;

(ii) Field projects. Seven projects on modern techniques and technologies for the development of both surface and groundwater resources; use of alternative sources of energy; new and renewable energy technologies; and improving the efficiency of resource use, minimizing waste and maximizing recycling and environmental protection;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Improvement of the quality of life*: $332,900

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on urban planning and housing, upgrading housing stocks resulting from urban migration and displaced persons and refugees; alleviating poverty among women through income-generating projects; promoting the integrative role of the family as a social institution and the main building block of civil society;

(ii) Field projects. Two projects on formulating legislation and action-oriented policies highlighting the actual needs of the family; and participation of women in economic activities and the process of development;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Economic development and global changes*: $491,600

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on improving economic reform policies, financial management, privatization and deregulation measures; and issues relating to WTO/GATT and the European Mediterranean Partnership;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on resource mobilization;

(iii) Field projects. Two projects on economic reform policies;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development*: $1,073,400

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on agricultural strategies and practices in terms of agricultural management; regional and international industrial standards requirements; and strengthening technological capabilities and promoting research and development activities;

(ii) Field projects. Seven projects on improving the competitiveness of existing industries; and harmonization of agricultural policies, regulations and norms;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information*: $730,600

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on statistical sampling; environmental statistics; and social statistics and household surveys;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on data collection, classification, standardization, analysis and dissemination of statistical information, particularly in new and emerging social areas;

(iii) Field projects. Two projects on development communications and information systems.